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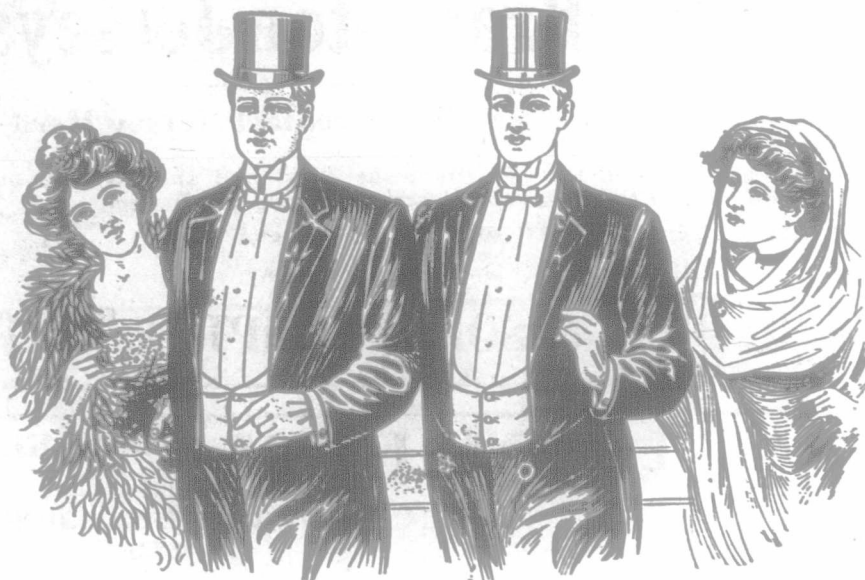
Moose Jaw, Sask., Oct. 13th
"Two years ago, I bought a colt that was badly spavined, and completely cured him with only two bottles of your Spavin Cure. Worked him steady all the time and sold him last winter for a top price."
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DR. B. J. KENDALL CO.
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They fully describe my Health Belt, and contain much valuable information. One is called "Health in Nature," and deals with various ailments common to both men and women, such as rheumatism, kidney, liver, stomach, bladder disorders, etc. The other, "Strength," is a private treatise for men only. Both sent upon application, free sealed, by mail.

If in or near this city, take the time to drop in at my office that you may see, examine and try the Belt. If you cannot call, fill in the coupon and get the free booklets by return mail. They are better than a fortune for any one needing new vigor.

DR. C. F. SANDEN, 140 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont.

Dear Sir, -Please forward me your books, as advertised, free.

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When Answering Ads. Kindly Mention This Paper

HENS STOP LAYING IN WINTER

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

We have about forty hens—seventeen purebred brown Leghorns and the remainder Barred Rocks. Last fall about this time they stopped laying so suddenly that I did not have any eggs to put away for the winter. I expected they would begin to lay later on after moulting was over, but was disappointed. I had a comfortable place for them during the winter, with plenty of fresh straw in which we fed them wheat the greater part of the time with an occasional feed of boiled potatoes and oats mixed on warm days. The hens were always allowed to run out and when not out I kept a supply of coal ashes in their pen, had them in two separate pens, but we never had an egg all winter and it was the end of April before they started to lay. They did not lay very well all summer and now about three weeks ago they have stopped laying the same as last year. I suppose they are moulting. Is there anything you can advise me to do? Is there any special food I could give them to help in moulting and to start them laying again soon? Have been feeding them oats for a time during July, but have been feeding wheat and barley for the last two weeks. They have free range and plenty of grit. I feel almost like giving up the business. I feel so anxious about our supply of winter eggs, as I have none packed away yet.

Ans.—The getting of winter eggs is a problem of annual recurrence. To get winter eggs one requires either early hatched pullets or yearling hens that have moulted early. You do not state what age your hens are, but we presume from the letter that they are not pullets. A pullet hatched in April or early in May, if well grown and properly fed should begin laying by November, and with the right kind of winter management should continue laying all through the season. Hens, two years or over are unlikely to lay in the winter at all. There is something too in the habit of winter laying. Pullets from hens that customarily lay in winter are more apt to be winter layers than pullets from hens that start on towards spring. The solution of this part of the problem lies in selecting eggs for hatching from hens that have been performing in egg production at the season it is desired that eggs should be laid. The habit of winter laying, to a certain extent has to be developed. Hens naturally are spring layers.

With this present flock it is doubtful if you will get many winter eggs. Would suggest that all birds two years old or over be gotten rid of. Never mind whether they are purebred or not. Then select the most likely-looking yearlings and the best grown pullets and feed these for winter eggs.

Feeding for winter eggs is a problem to some poultry keepers. Others seem to manage successfully. Winter layers require feed that will produce eggs and keep them in thrifty condition. They should have some animal food, meat scraps or ground bone. Some advise feeding meat every day, but the general practice is to give an allowance two or three times a week, either in the mash or separately. The layers should have plenty of green food, such foods as steamed clover, green oat sheaves, cut up and steamed mangolds, or vegetables of any kind. Winter feeding is merely imitating summer conditions. In summer, hens on the range get an abundance of green feed and animal food in the form of insects, worms, etc. Both are essential to egg production.

The kind of house the birds are kept in has a lot to do with their laying. The building should be well lighted and well ventilated. It need not be warm, but it should be dry and well aired. A good way to ventilate is to take out one window sash and put in a frame in its place, to which a muslin curtain is tacked. The roosting quarters should be warm. A good way to ensure of warmth in the roosting quarter is to have a curtain in front of the roosts extending from the ceiling to the dropping board or floor. This is let down on cold nights and rolled up during the day. The fowls are protected from the cold at nights.

These suggestions followed together with feeding grain in the litter for the

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Mr. Wm. Graham, Atwood, Ont., writes: "My wife had been ill for some time with nervous prostration and we had two of the best doctors we could get, but neither of them did her any good. She gradually became worse and worse, could not sleep, and lost energy and interest in life. She was almost giving up in despair when a friend advised the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

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hens to scratch for, the supplying of grit, water and dust baths should enable you to provide the conditions essential for winter laying. We would suggest that before you decide you are beaten in the poultry business, that you make a study of the whole subject of poultry raising, procuring for this purpose the bulletins published by the departments of agriculture at Edmonton and Ottawa. Much valuable matter on poultry has been prepared by these departments and will be sent free upon request.

